



## **Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement (Fulbright TEA) Program Media Literacy Cohorts**

A program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by IREX.

### **2020-2021 PROGRAM OVERVIEW FOR INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS**

#### **Program Overview**

The Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement (Fulbright TEA) Program Media Literacy Cohort is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The Fulbright program was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by former United States Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas. Fulbright grants are awarded to students, scholars, teachers and other professionals from the United States and to foreign nationals to study, teach, or conduct research. Since its inception in 1946, more than 370,000 "Fulbrighters" have participated in the Fulbright program.

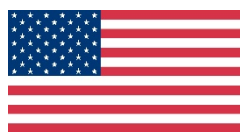
The 2020-2021 program will mark the twenty-fourth year of the Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (formerly the Teaching Excellence Awards program), the third year the program will be known as the Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program, and the second year to offer the Media Literacy Cohorts.

Teachers are nominated to participate in the Fulbright TEA Program Media Literacy Cohort based on their educational experience, academic training, leadership and professional experience. Final selection of Fulbright TEA Program Media Literacy Cohort teachers is made by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FFSB). The FFSB is an independent, presidentially appointed board that has oversight responsibility for all Fulbright academic exchange programs.

#### **Program Components**

Teachers who are selected to participate in the Fulbright TEA Program Media Literacy Cohort will:

- 1) Participate in advanced undergraduate or graduate level classes at a U.S. host university.
- 2) Observe classes, co-teach, and share their expertise with U.S. colleagues in U.S. secondary schools.
- 3) Participate in an online professional learning community with other participants to share best practices and other elements of host and home country educational systems; and
- 4) Take part in other education and cultural activities while on program in the United States.



Upon returning home, teachers will be expected to share the knowledge and experience gained on the program with teachers and students in their home schools and within their communities.

### **University Coursework:**

**Weekly Seminars:** Teachers will participate in weekly seminars at their host university featuring presentations and discussions led by university staff, faculty members, and invited educational experts. The Fulbright TEA Program provides academic seminars focusing on new teaching methodologies, curriculum development, lesson planning, and instructional technology training for teachers. The Media Literacy Cohorts will offer academic seminars focused on content-specific coursework with a focus on 21st century media literacy, recognizing bias/propaganda, stereotypes, and misinformation; strategies for improving students' critical thinking, analytical, and communication skills; how media literacy promotes civic engagement; among many other topics.

**U.S. School Placements:** The program will also include a practicum of at least 40 hours with a U.S. partner teacher of English, social studies, history, civics, communications, or journalism in a U.S. secondary school near the host university to actively engage participants in the U.S. classroom environment. Cultural enrichment, mentoring, and support will be provided to participants throughout the program.

**Online Professional Learning Community:** Each Fulbright teacher will participate in a virtual community with other international educators to collaborate and share best practices about education and leadership in the participating countries.

### **How to Apply**

Country Application deadline:

The online application is available at: <https://oas.irex.org/fulbrightteam1>

### **Program Dates**

#### ***Fall 2020***

**July-August 2020:** Pre-Departure Orientation: Prior to arrival in the United States, the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission will conduct a Pre-Departure Orientation for Fall 2019 teachers.

**September-late October 2020:** Fulbright teachers begin their program in the United States.

#### ***Spring 2021***

**November-December 2020:** Pre-Program Departure Orientation: Prior to arrival in the United States, the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission will conduct a Pre-Departure Orientation for Spring 2021 teachers.

**Late January-mid-March 2021:** Fulbright teachers begin their program in the United States.

### **Logistical Information**

**Travel:** IREX will make international travel arrangements and provide all teachers with an international airline ticket. Fulbright teachers will also be reimbursed for round-trip travel expenses between their home city and the point of departure for the United States; however, participants (or U.S. Embassies and Fulbright Commissions) are responsible for making these domestic travel arrangements to and from the international airport. Fulbright teachers may travel after the end of their program during the thirty-day grace period of the J-1 visa, provided that all conditions in the Terms and Conditions are met.

**Housing:** Participants will live on or near the host university campus in housing that is arranged for them. Dependents are not permitted to accompany the teachers on the program.

**Finances:** Each Fulbright teacher will receive a maintenance allowance during the program to cover expenses such as supplies for classes, household items, personal items, medical co-payments, and cultural and other activities. Also included in this total is a daily stipend to purchase groceries, meals at local restaurants, or food from on-campus dining services. Costs associated with housing, required program activities, and other program-related expenses are paid in advance by the Fulbright TEA Program and may vary by host university.

### **Fulbright Program Partner Information**

For more information, contact the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission in your home country. Contact information is on the program website at [irex.org/fulbright-tea](http://irex.org/fulbright-tea).